

58th Special Operations Wing announces annual award winners



Civilian Category I
TERRY VALENTI
58th Maintenance Squadron



Civilian Category III
TINA RIPBERGER
58th Operations Group



Civilian Category IV
IAN REESE
58th Operations Support Squadron

Not pictured
First Sergeant
SENIOR MASTER SGT. JAMES FOLTZ
58th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron



Airman
SENIOR AIRMAN HOLLY WILEY
58th Operations Support Squadron



Noncommissioned Officer
TECH. SGT. BLAIR DIEDERICH
58th Maintenance Operations Squadron



Senior Noncommissioned Officer
MASTER SGT. A. C. SMITH
551st Special Operations Squadron



Company Grade Officer
CAPT. DIRK JOHNSON
512th Rescue Squadron

Meyers becomes AETC command chief master sergeant

RANDOLPH AFB, Texas—A 25-year Air Force veteran who has served as a command chief master sergeant at a wing and numbered air force levels, assumed the position of command chief master sergeant of Air Education and Training Command recently.

Chief Master Sgt. Karl Meyers replaced Chief Master Sgt. William Milligan, who retired Jan. 31 after serving as AETC command chief master sergeant since Feb. 2000.

The command chief master sergeant, as the top enlisted person in the command, advises the AETC commander and senior staff on the morale, welfare and effective use of more than 34,000 enlisted people and the more than 350,000 enlisted students AETC trains each year.

Meyers was 2nd Air Force command chief master sergeant, Keesler AFB, Miss., from June 2001 to



Chief Master Sgt. Karl Meyers

January of this year. Before that assignment, he was command chief master sergeant for the 325th Fighter Wing, Tyndall AFB, Fla., from March 1999 to June 2001.

The chief brings a simple approach to his new position that has served him well since his initial duty assignment in early 1978 as an aerospace control and warning system operator.

"When I go into any job, my initial goal is to do the best I can," said the native of Utica, N.Y. "I hope that our Airmen are thinking the same way. I don't go into the job thinking about the next job or the next assignment. I always think about what I can do today to make my job and the Air Force better for the people who follow."

In following that philosophy, the chief said his primary focus would be to help ensure the command's mission runs as smoothly as possible so that AETC can provide professional Airman to sustain the combat capability of America's Air Force.

"My initial focus is to help make AETC, as the First Command, the best

experience it can be in our mission of recruiting, training and educating young men and women from the hometowns of America who choose to 'Cross Into The Blue,'" he said.

In his first few months on the job, the chief said he will be getting more familiar with the command's education and flying training missions.

Visiting command bases "will help me get a better feel for the command's flying training and education missions and the issues affecting them," Meyers said. "Having come from 2nd Air Force, I don't have any immediate plans to visit our technical training bases, but I'll make it around to them again as time passes."

His message to the enlisted members of the command is to make the Air Force core values—integrity, service before self, excellence in all we do—the foundation of their everyday lives.

"I've tried to live by the core values my whole career even though we didn't have them labeled as such when I was coming up through the ranks," he said. "If everybody adheres to our core values, little can go wrong with our entire Air Force mission."

The chief entered the Air Force through the U.S. Air Force Basic Military Training School in November 1977. He graduated from the aerospace control and warning system operator course at Keesler AFB, Miss., in March 1978 and completed satellite orbital analysis training at Peterson AFB, Colo., a month later.

Meyers has held positions at a regional operational control center, NATO command and control center and on the training staff at a numbered air force.

The chief has also served as an Air Force adviser to the Air National Guard. (AETCNS)

T'bird Inn hosts special events in March

Thunderbird Inn dining facility events for March

- ★ **Movie Night**, each Wednesday, 5-7 p.m.
- ★ **Mardi Gras Lunch**, March 6, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
- ★ **Quarterly Birthday Meal**, March 20, 5:30-7 p.m.

The Birthday Meal is open to all dorm residents who celebrate birthdays in February and March. Birthday members may bring one guest at no charge to meal card holders, people without a meal card must pay cash.

The Birthday Meal is served by commanders, command chiefs, first sergeants and superintendents.

The menu for the Birthday Meal is T-bone steak, lobster, fried shrimp and shrimp cocktail.

There will be live entertainment.

Call 846-0587, by March 15 to RSVP.

Thunderbird Inn dining facility hours of operation

- Monday-Friday**
Breakfast, 5:45-7:45 a.m.
Lunch, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Dinner, 4-7:30 p.m.
Midnight, 10 p.m.-midnight, must be in uniform
- Weekends, federal holidays**
Brunch, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.
Supper, 5-7 p.m.
Midnight, 10 p.m.-midnight, must be in uniform



Football Hall of Famer Franco Harris signs autographs at the Thunderbird Inn during a visit in September.



The 50s returned to the Thunderbird Inn.



You can't tell who you'll see at the Thunderbird Inn—from Kirtland AFB cops...ELVIS!

Thunderbird Inn purpose, rules

The Air Force operates enlisted dining facilities:

- ★ to provide the subsistence entitlement to enlisted members who reside in the dormitories,
- ★ to provide a training environment for food service members to meet our warfighting mission and
- ★ to provide flight and ground support service in support of daily operations.

As a general rule, use of the dining facility is restricted to enlisted members and those individuals authorized by the installation commander to meet mission requirements.

Eligible customers of the Thunderbird Inn dining facility:

- ★ Enlisted members entitled to a meal card,
- ★ Enlisted members drawing basic allowance for subsistence
- ★ Officer and enlisted temporary duty travelers receiving the meal portion of per diem. Orders must authorize use of dining facility.
- ★ Members and chaperones of organized non-profit youth groups. When extended the privilege of visiting the base and installation commander permits them to eat in the facility.
- ★ Commanders and officers when eating a meal to determine the quality and quantity of food served. Visits are limited to twice monthly, must sign the guest log and present a Commanders Dining Facility pass at cashier station.

★ DOD civilian firemen on alert status

★ Guard and Reserve Units during Unit Training Assemblies

★ Air Force Academy Cadets and ROTC students in training

Eligible customers authorized to eat in the Thunderbird Inn dining facility on weekends during the brunch meal, 8-10:30 a.m., and federal holidays during the lunch meal.

★ Spouses and dependent children of active duty members E-1-E-4.

★ One guest and immediate family members of meal card holders. Guests must be accompanied by sponsor.

★ Retirees and immediate family members, must be accompanied by sponsor.

Eligible customers authorized to eat at the Thunderbird Inn dining facility on federal holidays:

★ Officers and active duty family members who must be accompanied by their sponsor.

Recognized Holidays: New Years Day, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday, Presidents Day, Easter Sunday, Memorial Day, Labor Day, AF Birthday, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day.

Call Tech. Sgt. Montrealle L. Parker at 846-0587 if you have any questions on commanders passes or authorized users of the Thunderbird Inn dining facility.

